Appl No.: 10/807,460

Amdt. dated 06/20/2006

Response to Official Action of December 20, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

On Page 5, please insert the following immediately after the sixth full paragraph, and immediately before the "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION" section:

Figure 13 is an upper perspective view showing the planter of Figure 11 with one of the "male" panels removed from view. In this figure, the modular planter is shown in an unassembled configuration.

Figure 14 is a top view of the planter of Figure 13.

Figure 15 is an upper perspective view of the modular planter of Figure 13 in which the planter is shown assembled.

Please replace the three paragraphs beginning with the second full paragraph on Page 12, with the following three paragraphs:

Similarly, the fasteners that are used to attach the various panels together may take many different forms. For example, in one embodiment of the invention, the various fasteners may comprise hinges that are used to fixedly and pivotably attach two or more of the panels adjacent one another. In another embodiment of the invention, such as the embodiment shown in Figures 11 and 12, the various fasteners may comprise one or more two-part fasteners, each of which includes a male fastener portion 1620, 1621 and a female fastener portion 1624, 1625.

In the embodiment of the invention shown in Figures 11 and 12, each female fastener portion 1624, 1625 includes one or more slots, and each male fastener portion 1620, 1621 includes one or more hooked male members. In one embodiment of the invention, at least one of the hooked male members is adapted to be received within a corresponding one of the female portion's slots, and to slideably engage the female fastener portion 1624, 1625 after the hooked male member is received within that slot and pushed downwardly relative to the female fastener portion 1624, 1625. This causes the male fastener portion 1620, 1621 to releasably hook onto the female fastener portion 1624, 1625.

In one embodiment of the invention shown in Figures 11 and 12, the planter 1600 comprises four panels 1640, 1645, 1647, 1648. As may be understood from these figures, two of the panels 1640, 1648 (which may be referred to as "male" panels) include two male fastener portions 1620, 1621; one of which extends outwardly from a first side edge of the male panel

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1640, 1648 and another of which extends outwardly from a second side edge of the male panel 1640, 1648. Similarly, two of the panels 1645, 1647 (which may be referred to as "female" panels) include two female fastener portions 1624, 1625; one of which is positioned adjacent a first side edge of the "female" panel 1645, 1647 and another of which is positioned adjacent a second side edge of the "female" panel 1645, 1647. In this embodiment of the invention, the planter 1600 is assembled by positioning the male fastener portions 1620, 1621 of the two "male" panels 1640, 1648 so that they slideably engage the female fastener portions 1624, 1625 of the two "female" panels 1645, 1647 as described above. The planter 1600 may later be disassembled by hand, and without using tools, by sliding the "male" panels 1640, 1648 upwardly relative to the "female" panels 1645, 1647 and then pulling the "male" panels 1640, 1648 away from the "female" panels 1645, 1647.

On Page 13, please insert the following text after Line 13 (i.e., immediately before the "Conclusion" section):

Figures 13 and 14 show the planter of Figure 11 in an unassembled configuration with one of the "male" panels removed from view. Figure 15 shows an assembled version of the three-panel planter of Figures 13 and 14. For purposes of the discussion of Figures 13 – 15: (1) the female panel 1645 shown in the upper portion of Figure 14 will be referred to as a "first panel"; (2) the male panel 1640 will be referred to as a "second panel"; and (3) the female panel 1647 shown in the lower portion of Figure 14 will be referred to as a "third panel". Also, the respective right and left hand lateral sides of each respective panel will be referred to as the panels "lateral" sides.

Accordingly, Figures 13 – 15 show a three-sided planter comprising: (1) a first panel 1645 (the upper female panel 1645 shown in Figure 14) having a first lateral side 1653 and a second lateral side 1654; (2) a second panel (the male panel 1640 shown in Figure 14) having a first lateral side 1655 and a second lateral side 1656; (3) a third panel 1647 (the lower female panel 1647 shown in Figure 14) having a first lateral side 1657 and a second lateral side 1658; (4) a first, temporary fastener that is configured for temporarily attaching said first panel 1645 adjacent said second panel 1640 so that said second lateral side 1654 of said first panel 1645 is immediately adjacent said first lateral side 1655 of said second panel 1640; and (5) a second fastener that is configured for attaching said third panel 1647

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adjacent said second panel 1640 so that said first lateral side 1657 of said third panel 1647 is immediately adjacent said second lateral side 1656 of said second panel 1640.

In this example, the first, temporary fastener comprises a first male fastener portion 1620 that is disposed adjacent the second panel's first lateral side 1655, and a first female fastener portion 1625 that is disposed adjacent the first panel's second lateral side 1654. Similarly, the second fastener comprises a second male fastener portion 1621 that is disposed adjacent the second panel's second lateral side 1656, and a second female fastener portion 1627 that is disposed adjacent a first lateral side 1657 of the third panel 1647. The first temporary fastener is adapted to removably attach said first panel 1645 adjacent said second panel 1640 via a frictional engagement between said first male fastener portion 1620 and said first female fastener portion 1625. Similarly, the second temporary fastener is adapted to removably attach said third panel 1647 adjacent said second panel 1640 via a frictional engagement between said outwardly extending second male fastener portion 1621 and the second female fastener portion 1627.